

To protect water supplies for natural systems, the South Florida Water Management District adopts minimum flows and levels (MFLs), water reservations, and restricted allocation areas (RAAs) by rule. Chapter 3 of Volume II summarizes such District rulemaking completed through 2014 and outlines priorities for developing new rules during the 2015–2017 timeframe.

New in 2014, the water reservation for the Caloosahatchee River (C-43) West Basin Storage Reservoir was adopted. Specifically, this will reserve from allocation all water contained within and released from the reservoir to the Caloosahatchee River for the protection of fish and wildlife. The reservoir is a component of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, and it also serves as a recovery strategy for the Caloosahatchee River.

During 2014, the District continued collecting technical data and refining hydrodynamic and ecological models as part of the reevaluation of MFL criteria established for the Caloosahatchee River. The agency also continued developing water reservations for water bodies in the Kissimmee Basin, including portions of the Kissimmee River and floodplain and the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes. These initiatives are planned to be completed by December 2015. Further details on these plans are available at www.sfwmd.gov/reservations.

Restricted Allocation Areas

- C-23, C-24, & C-25 Canal System
- L-1, L-2, & L-3 Canal System
- Lake Istokpoga / Indian Prairie Canal System
- Lake Okechobee & Lake Okechobee Service Area
- North Palm Beach County / Coakley/Chloro / Wekiva/Chloro Watersheds & Lower East Coast Everglades Watersheds